GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1194
ANSWERED ON:07.03.2002
LOSS SUFFERED DUE TO DEFECTIVE AMMUNITION
SUKDEO PASWAN

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have suffered losses due to defective manufacturing of ammunition;

(b) if so, the loss suffered by the Government till date as a result thereof;

(c) whether the reasons for defective manufacturing of ammunition has been identified; and

(d) if so, the remedial measures taken in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) to (d): A Statement is attached.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1194 7.3.2002.

Ordnance Factories manufacture and supply ammunition to the Armed Forces as per laid down specification duly inspected and accepted by the designated inspecting authority like Director General Quality Assurance (DGQA), Director General Naval Armament Inspection (DGNAI) and Director General Air Quality Assurance (DGAQA). During manufacture, certain quantum of rejection is unavoidable and is allowed depending on the manufacturing process, qualitative parameters of the product, limitation of plants and machines etc. Whenever the quantum of actual rejection exceeds acceptable limit of rejection, investigation is carried out by the Ordnance Factories to find out the reasons for the rejection with a view to taking remedial measures to avoid recurrence. The services of DGQA/DGNAI/DGAQA as well as Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO) are also drawn upon for such investigations whenever required. Two recent cases of rejection beyond permissible limit are as under :

Name of ammunition produced	Quality rejected	Quantity	Remarks
105 mm IFG HESH	25,221	9,130	Investigating committee comprising of DRDO, DGQA and OFB suggested (i) certain rectification of the rejected lots and (ii) modification in proof fixture.
105 mm BE SMOKE	13, 800	3,153	The salvaging action could reduce the loss to Rs. 37 Lakh from Rs. 107 Lakh. The remedial measures suggested by the committee to avoid recurrence, however, could not be implemented since the requirement ceases to exist.

The amount of manufacturing loss written off during 2000-01 is Rs. 1.53 crore and amounts to 0.05 % of value of ammunition (Rs. 2865.27 crore) issued during 2000-01.